

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**

EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

SYLVESTER STRONG, JR.,	)	1:05-cv-00112-TAG HC
	)	
Petitioner,	)	ORDER GRANTING RESPONDENT'S
	)	MOTION TO DISMISS PETITION FOR
v.	)	FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE STATUTE
	)	OF LIMITATIONS (Doc. 14)
	)	
A.P. KANE, Warden,	)	ORDER DENYING PETITIONER'S REQUEST
	)	FOR APPOINTMENT OF COUNSEL
Respondent.	)	
_____	)	ORDER DISMISSING PETITION FOR WRIT
	)	OF HABEAS CORPUS
		ORDER DIRECTING THAT THE CLERK OF
		THE COURT ENTER JUDGMENT IN FAVOR
		OF RESPONDENT AND CLOSE THE CASE

Petitioner is a state prisoner proceeding pro se with a petition for writ of habeas corpus pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2254.

The instant petition was filed on December 13, 2004, in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California. (Doc. 1). The case was transferred to the Eastern District of California on December 30, 2004. Petitioner challenges his sentence of a maximum of eighteen years based on a conviction for second degree murder and assault with a deadly weapon on October 21, 1988. (Doc. 1, p. 2). The Petition raises two grounds for relief: (1) breach of the plea agreement; and (2) misrepresentation of the plea agreement. (Doc. 1, p. 5).

On May 8, 2007, Respondent filed the instant motion to dismiss, claiming that the petition was untimely because it was not filed within the one-year statute of limitations imposed

by 28. U.S.C. § 2244(d). (Doc. 14). On May 23, 2007, Petitioner filed his opposition to Respondent's motion to dismiss. (Doc. 18).

### DISCUSSION

#### A. Procedural Grounds for Motion to Dismiss

Respondent's motion to dismiss is based on Respondent's contention that the instant petition was filed outside the one-year limitation period prescribed by Title 28 U.S.C. §2244(d)(1). Rule 4 of the Rules Governing Section 2254 Cases allows a district court to dismiss a petition if it "plainly appears from the face of the petition and any exhibits annexed to it that the petitioner is not entitled to relief in the district court . . . ." Rule 4 of the Rules Governing Section 2254 Cases.

The Ninth Circuit has allowed respondents to file a motion to dismiss in lieu of an answer if the motion attacks the pleadings for failing to exhaust state remedies or being in violation of the state's procedural rules. See e.g., O'Brenski v. Maass, 915 F.2d 418, 420 (9th Cir. 1990) (using Rule 4 to evaluate motion to dismiss petition for failure to exhaust state remedies); White v. Lewis, 874 F.2d 599, 602-603 (9th Cir. 1989) (using Rule 4 as procedural grounds to review motion to dismiss for state procedural default); Hillery v. Pulley, 533 F.Supp. 1189, 1194 & fn.12 (E.D. Cal. 1982) (same). Thus, a respondent can file a motion to dismiss after the court orders a response, and the court should use Rule 4 standards to review the motion. See id.

In this case, Respondent's motion to dismiss is based on a violation of 28 U.S.C. § 2244(d)(1)'s one year limitation period. Because Respondent's motion to dismiss is similar in procedural standing to a motion to dismiss for failure to exhaust state remedies or for state procedural default and Respondent has not yet filed a formal answer, the Court will review Respondent's motion to dismiss pursuant to its authority under Rule 4.

#### B. Limitation Period for Filing a Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus

On April 24, 1996, Congress enacted the Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act of 1996 (AEDPA). The AEDPA imposes various requirements on all petitions for writ of habeas corpus filed after the date of its enactment. Lindh v. Murphy, 521 U.S. 320, 326, 117 S. Ct. 2059 (1997); Jeffries v. Wood, 114 F.3d 1484, 1499 (9th Cir. 1997) (en banc), overruled on other

1 grounds by Lindh v. Murphy, 521 U.S. 320. The instant petition was filed on December 13,  
2 2004, and thus, it is subject to the provisions of the AEDPA.

3 The AEDPA imposes a one year period of limitation on petitioners seeking to file a  
4 federal petition for writ of habeas corpus. 28 U.S.C. § 2244(d)(1). As amended, § 2244,  
5 subdivision (d) reads:

6 (1) A 1-year period of limitation shall apply to an application for a writ of  
7 habeas corpus by a person in custody pursuant to the judgment of a State court.  
The limitation period shall run from the latest of –

8 (A) the date on which the judgment became final by the conclusion of  
9 direct review or the expiration of the time for seeking such review;

10 (B) the date on which the impediment to filing an application created by  
11 State action in violation of the Constitution or laws of the United States is  
removed, if the applicant was prevented from filing by such State action;

12 (C) the date on which the constitutional right asserted was initially recognized  
13 by the Supreme Court, if the right has been newly recognized by the Supreme Court and  
made retroactively applicable to cases on collateral review; or

14 (D) the date on which the factual predicate of the claim or claims  
presented could have been discovered through the exercise of due diligence.

15 (2) The time during which a properly filed application for State post-  
16 conviction or other collateral review with respect to the pertinent judgment or  
claim is pending shall not be counted toward any period of limitation under this  
17 subsection.

18 28 U.S.C. § 2244(d).

19 In most cases, the limitations period begins running on the date that the petitioner's direct  
20 review became final. The AEDPA, however, is silent on how the one year limitations period  
21 affects cases where direct review concluded *before* the enactment of the AEDPA. The Ninth  
22 Circuit has held that if a petitioner whose review ended before the enactment of the AEDPA filed  
23 a habeas corpus petition within one year of the AEDPA's enactment, the Court should not  
24 dismiss the petition pursuant to § 2244(d)(1). Calderon v. United States Dist. Court (Beeler),  
25 128 F.3d 1283, 1286 (9th Cir.), overruled in part on other grounds by Calderon v. United States  
26 Dist. Court (Kelly), 163 F.3d 530, 541 (9th 1998). In such circumstances, the limitations period  
27 would begin to run on April 25, 1996. See Patterson v. Stewart, 251 F.3d 1243, 1246 (9th Cir.  
28 2001).

1 Here, Petitioner was convicted on October 21, 1988, following a guilty plea. Petitioner  
2 appealed to the California Court of Appeal, Fifth Appellate District (“5th DCA”). The 5th DCA  
3 affirmed Petitioner’s conviction on November 15, 1989. Petitioner did not file a petition for  
4 review in the California Supreme Court. According to the California Rules of Court, a decision  
5 of the Court of Appeal becomes final thirty days after filing, and an appeal must be taken  
6 thereafter to the California Supreme Court within ten days of finality. Rule 24(a), 28(b),  
7 Cal.R.Ct. Thus, Petitioner’s direct review would have concluded forty days after November 15,  
8 1989, or on December 25, 1989, which is prior to the enactment of the AEDPA.

9 Since Petitioner’s direct review concluded prior to the enactment of the AEDPA, he  
10 would be entitled to avail himself of the one-year statute of limitations that would have expired  
11 on April 25, 1997. Patterson, 251 F.3d at 1246. The instant case was not filed until December  
12 13, 2004, more than seven years *after* the one-year limitations period had expired. (See Doc. 7,  
13 case documents, part 2, petition).

14 However, the determination of when the statute commenced and expired is complicated  
15 by Petitioner’s assertion that he is entitled to the AEDPA’s alternate provision that the one-year  
16 period commences only upon the discovery of the factual predicate for a petitioner’s claim.  
17 28 U.S.C. § 2244(d)(1)(D). Thus, in order to determine whether the instant petition is timely, the  
18 Court must first determine when, through the exercise of reasonable diligence, Petitioner could  
19 have discovered the factual predicate of his claim.

20 Petitioner contends that he did not discover that his sentence was eighteen years to life,  
21 rather than a determinate sentence with an eighteen year cap, until he requested a “calculation  
22 worksheet” from the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (“CDCR”), which  
23 he received on or about March 28, 2003. (Doc. 18, p. 1). The document indicated that  
24 Petitioner’s term was fixed at eighteen years, less his pre-sentence credits, thus making his  
25 “minimum eligible parole date” December 10, 1999. (Id.). Petitioner then attempted to find out  
26 why he had not been released on that date. (Id.). In his opposition to the motion to dismiss,  
27 Petitioner alleges that he “immediately filed for relief in the Superior Court of California, County  
28 of Fresno, being denied relief on or about July 3, 2003.” (Doc. 18, p.1).

1 On December 27, 2005, the Court issued an order to show cause in this action, directing  
2 Petitioner to show cause why the petition should not be dismissed for failure to comply with the  
3 statute of limitations. (Doc. 11). In his response to the order to show cause, Petitioner alleged  
4 that he was finally told in July 2003 by a prison correctional counselor that his term is considered  
5 to be a life term unless the Board of Prison Terms determines otherwise. (Doc. 12, p.6). In his  
6 response to the order to show cause, Petitioner contended that the factual predicate for his claim  
7 was not discovered until July 2003. (*Id.*). In his opposition to the motion to dismiss, Petitioner  
8 alleges that he entered “into a contract with the state of California for an indeterminate sentence  
9 of 15 years to life, with a ‘lid’ of ‘18 years’” and that he “discovered and had good reason to  
10 believe in March 2003 that the state was not going to honor the contract, and began his trek  
11 through the judicial labyrinth in July 2003.” (Doc. 18, pp. 1, 3). The discrepancy in Petitioner’s  
12 allegations that he discovered the factual predicate in July 2003, and that he discovered an  
13 alleged breach of contract in March 2003, is not further explained by Petitioner. Nevertheless,  
14 under either scenario, the petition is untimely. The Court interprets Petitioner’s argument in  
15 opposition to the motion to dismiss relating to a breach of contract as being simply another way of  
16 expressing that he did not discover the factual predicate until the State of California refused to  
17 grant him parole. (Doc. 18, pp. 1, 3). From that standpoint, Petitioner’s one-year limitations  
18 period would not have expired until either March or July 2004, and Petitioner maintains that he is  
19 entitled to sufficient statutory tolling during that period to make the instant petition timely under  
20 the AEDPA.

21 Petitioner’s position is, quite simply, untenable. Under Petitioner’s reading of the statute,  
22 the one year limitations period begins when a prisoner actually understands what legal theories  
23 are available to him. However, this interpretation is incorrect. The one year time limit  
24 commences on the date the “factual predicate of the claim or claims presented *could have been*  
25 discovered through the exercise of due diligence,” not when it was actually discovered by  
26 Petitioner. (Emphasis supplied.) In addition, the trigger in § 2244(d)(1)(D) is the discovery,  
27 actual or imputed, of the claim’s “factual predicate,” *not* the recognition of the factual predicate’s  
28 legal significance. Stated differently, the one-year period begins when the prisoner knows (or

1 through the exercise of reasonable diligence could discover) the important facts, not when he  
2 recognizes the legal significance of those facts.

3       The record before the Court reflects that Petitioner was aware, at least no later than the  
4 date of the 5th DCA's decision in 1989, that his sentence was eighteen years-to- life, not merely  
5 a determinate term with an eighteen year cap. In his original appeal to the 5th DCA, the Court of  
6 Appeal referred to his sentence as eighteen years to life, i.e., a fifteen years-to-life sentence for  
7 murder "plus a consecutive three-year middle base term on the assault." (Lodged Document  
8 ("LD") 2, p. 2). That Petitioner was aware of the consecutive nature of the sentences is self-  
9 evident from the fact that Petitioner challenged the consecutive nature of the sentences in his  
10 direct appeal in the 5th DCA. (*Id.* at pp. 6-7). Thus, as of the date of the 5th DCA's decision on  
11 November 15, 1989, Petitioner was made aware of the factual predicate to his claim, i.e., that his  
12 sentence was regarded by the California courts as being an indeterminate eighteen years-to-life  
13 sentence, not simply a determinate eighteen year term.

14       This conclusion is bolstered by the findings of the Superior Court for the County of  
15 Fresno, which denied Petitioner's state habeas petition on July 15, 2003, finding that "at the time  
16 of sentencing Petitioner was informed that he was being sentenced to the indeterminate term of  
17 fifteen years to life on the murder count, with the only question being whether the fifteen-year  
18 portion would be increased to a maximum of eighteen years or to the recommended maximum of  
19 twenty years." In so finding, the Superior Court cited the probation officer's report and the  
20 judgment transcript. (LD 5, p. 2).

21       That portion of the judgment transcript indicates that the trial judge explained to  
22 Petitioner the following:

23       "With regard to the recommendation, the recommendation is obviously for 20 years. The  
24 Court has placed additional conditions on it that would reduce that to a maximum term of  
25 18 years. And the issue as I've previously stated is only one whether the concurrent term  
26 of Count 2 to the indeterminate life sentence 15 years to life or consecutive."  
(LD 7, trans. of Oct. 21, 1988 hearing, p. 22).

27 ///

28 ///

1 A petition for writ of habeas corpus under 28 U.S.C. § 2254(d) will not be granted unless  
2 the adjudication of a prisoner's claim (1) "resulted in a decision that was contrary to, or involved  
3 an unreasonable application of, clearly established Federal law, as determined by the Supreme  
4 Court of the United States" or (2) "resulted in a decision that was based on an unreasonable  
5 determination of the facts in light of the evidence presented in the State court proceeding." 28  
6 U.S.C. § 2254(d); Lockyer v. Andrade, 538 U.S. 63, 70-71, 123 S.Ct. 1166 (2003); Williams v.  
7 Taylor, 529 U.S. 362, 412-413, 120 S.Ct. 1495 (2000).

8 The issue of when the one-year limitations period commenced involves the second prong  
9 of federal habeas review, i.e., the "unreasonable determination" clause of 28 U.S.C. § 2254(d)(2).  
10 This prong pertains to state court decisions based on factual findings. Davis v. Woodford, 384  
11 F.3d 628, 637 ((th Cir. 2004)(citing Miller-El v. Cockrell, 537 U.S. 322, 123 S. Ct. 1029 (2003)).  
12 Under § 2254(d)(2), a federal court may grant habeas relief if a state court's adjudication of the  
13 petitioner's claims "resulted in a decision that was based on an unreasonable determination of the  
14 facts in light of the evidence presented in the State court proceeding." Wiggins v. Smith, 539  
15 U.S. 510, 520, 123 S. Ct. 2527 (2003); Jeffries v. Wood, 114 F.3d at 1500 (when reviewing a  
16 state court's factual determinations, a "responsible, thoughtful answer reached after a full  
17 opportunity to litigate is adequate to support the judgment"). A state court's factual finding is  
18 unreasonable when it is "so clearly incorrect that it would not be debatable among reasonable  
19 jurists." Id. ; see Taylor v. Maddox, 366 F.3d 992, 999-1001 (9th Cir. 2004), cert. denied,  
20 Maddox v. Taylor, 543 U.S. 1038, 125 S. Ct. 809 (2004). The AEDPA also requires that  
21 considerable deference be given to a state court's factual findings. A state court's factual  
22 findings are presumed to be correct, and the presumption of correctness may be rebutted only by  
23 clear and convincing evidence. 28 U.S.C. § 2254(e)(1).

24 Here, although the trial court could have employed more precise language to explain the  
25 nature of the plea agreement and resulting sentence, the sentencing court nonetheless did identify  
26 the base sentence as fifteen years-to-life with the possibility of either a concurrent or consecutive  
27 three-year term, thus resulting in an eighteen years-to-life sentence. Based on that record, the  
28 Court cannot conclude that the State court's finding that Petitioner was made aware of the



1 indeterminate nature sentence by the 5th DCA's opinion in 1989 is "so clearly incorrect that it  
 2 would not be debatable among reasonable jurists." Wiggins, 539 U.S. at 520; Jeffries, 114 F.3d  
 3 at 1500; see Taylor v. Maddox, 366 F.3d at 999-1001. Under 28 U.S.C. §§ 2254(d)(2) and  
 4 (e)(1), the Court will give deference to those State court findings. Accordingly, the Court finds  
 5 that Petitioner was aware in 1989 of the of the factual predicate of his current claim.

6 Under § 2244(d)(1), the one-year period runs from the latest of the four provisions of that  
 7 statute that are applicable. Here, then, the statute would commence from the later of either the  
 8 date the factual predicate was discovered in 1989, or the enactment date of the AEDPA in 1996.  
 9 Since the later is clearly later in time, that is the appropriate date for commencement of the  
 10 statute. Hence, the one-year period expired on April 25, 1997, seven years before the instant  
 11 petition was filed. Thus, unless Petitioner is entitled to some form of statutory or equitable  
 12 tolling, the petition is untimely and must be dismissed.

### 13 C. Tolling of the Limitation Period Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2244(d)(2)

14 Title 28 U.S.C. § 2244(d)(2) states that the "time during which a properly filed  
 15 application for State post-conviction or other collateral review with respect to the pertinent  
 16 judgment or claim is pending shall not be counted toward" the one year limitation period.  
 17 28 U.S.C. § 2244(d)(2). In Nino v. Galaza, the Ninth Circuit held that the "statute of limitations  
 18 is tolled from the time the first state habeas petition is filed until the California Supreme Court  
 19 rejects the petitioner's final collateral challenge."<sup>1</sup> Nino v. Galaza, 183 F.3d 1003, 1006 (9th  
 20 Cir. 1999); see also Taylor v. Lee, 186 F.3d 557 (4th Cir. 1999); Barnett v. Lemaster, 167 F.3d  
 21 1321, 1323 (10th Cir. 1999). The Ninth Circuit reasoned that tolling the limitations period  
 22 during the time a petitioner is preparing his petition to file at the next appellate level reinforces  
 23 the need to present all claims to the state courts first and will prevent the premature filing of  
 24

---

25 <sup>1</sup>In California, the Supreme Court, intermediate Courts of Appeal, and Superior Courts all have original  
 26 habeas corpus jurisdiction. See, Nino 183 F.3d 1003, 1006, n. 2 (9th Cir. 1999). Although a Superior Court order  
 27 denying habeas corpus relief is non-appealable, a state prisoner may file a new habeas corpus petition in the Court of  
 28 Appeal. Id. If the Court of Appeal denies relief, the petitioner may seek review in the California Supreme Court by  
 way of a petition for review, or may instead file an original habeas petition in the Supreme Court. See id.



1 federal petitions out of concern that the limitations period will end before all claims can be  
2 presented to the state supreme court. Nino, 183 F.3d at 1005. However, the limitations period is  
3 not tolled for the time such an application is pending in federal court. Duncan v. Walker, 533  
4 U.S. 167, 181-182, 121 S. Ct. 2120 (2001)

5 Respondent correctly notes that the first state habeas filed by Petitioner on November 29,  
6 1995, was not a challenge to his sentence or conviction, but instead challenged a prison  
7 disciplinary hearing. (LD 3). Thus, it is unrelated to the instant case and does not afford  
8 Petitioner any statutory tolling for the claims in this petition.

9 Petitioner's documents indicate that he later commenced a "round" of eight state habeas  
10 corpus proceedings on October 8, 2003 in the Fresno County Superior Court, raising the same  
11 issues contained in this petition. (Doc. 1, attachments; LD 5-16). It appears that this "round" of  
12 habeas proceedings terminated when the California Supreme Court denied his habeas petition on  
13 November 10, 2004. (LD 10). However, as discussed above, the one-year limitations period  
14 expired on April 25, 1997, more than six years *before* Petitioner commenced his "round" of state  
15 habeas proceedings.

16 Thus, although Petitioner filed collateral challenges in state court regarding his conviction  
17 and sentence that would, under normal circumstances, be entitled to statutory tolling, those  
18 proceedings would *not* have operated to toll the statute of limitations here. It is well-established  
19 that when the limitations period has *already* expired at the time a Petitioner commences a round  
20 of state court habeas petitions, those collateral challenges have no tolling consequences for  
21 purposes of the one-year limitation in AEDPA. Green v. White, 223 F.3d 1001, 1003 (9th  
22 Cir.2000) (petitioner is not entitled to tolling where the limitations period has already run prior to  
23 filing state habeas proceedings); see Webster v. Moore, 199 F.3d 1256, 1259 (11th Cir.  
24 2000)(same); Jackson v. Dormire, 180 F.3d 919, 920 (petitioner fails to exhaust claims raised in  
25 state habeas corpus filed after expiration of the one-year limitations period.). Hence, Petitioner  
26 is not entitled to statutory tolling for those state habeas petitions and, therefore, the instant  
27 petition is untimely.

28 ///

1 D. Petitioner Is Not Entitled To Equitable Tolling

2 The limitations period is also subject to equitable tolling if “extraordinary circumstances  
3 beyond a prisoner’s control” have made it impossible for the petition to be filed on time.  
4 Calderon (Kelly), 163 F.3d at 541 (citing Alvarez-Machain v. United States, 107 F.3d 696, 701  
5 (9th Cir. 1997)); Calderon (Beeler), 128 F.3d at 1288 (noting that “[e]quitable tolling will not be  
6 available in most cases, as extensions of time will only be granted if ‘extraordinary  
7 circumstances’ beyond a prisoner’s control make it impossible to file a petition on time”). “When  
8 external forces, rather than a petitioner’s lack of diligence, account for the failure to file a timely  
9 claim, equitable tolling of the statute of limitations may be appropriate.” Miles v. Prunty, 187  
10 F.3d 1104, 1107 (9th Cir. 1999). Therefore, equitable tolling applies only where a petitioner has  
11 diligently pursued his claims, but has in some “extraordinary way” been prevented from asserting  
12 those claims.

13 Petitioner makes no claim of entitlement to equitable tolling and the Court sees no basis  
14 for such a claim in the record now before the Court. Indeed, it appears that the only excuse  
15 proffered by Petitioner is his implicit contention that he did not discover the true nature of his  
16 indeterminate sentence until a corrections counsel advised him of it in July 2003, or when he  
17 “discovered and had good reason to believe in March 2003 that the state was not going to honor  
18 the contract.” (Doc. 18, p. 3). Claims of ignorance of the law are insufficient to justify equitable  
19 tolling. See e.g., Hughes v. Idaho State Bd. of Corrections, 800 F.2d 905, 909 (9th Cir.1986)  
20 (pro se prisoner’s illiteracy and lack of knowledge of law unfortunate but insufficient to establish  
21 cause); Fisher v. Johnson, 174 F.3d 710, 714 (5th Cir. 1999); Rose v. Dole, 945 F.2d 1331, 1335  
22 (6th Cir.1991).

23 Petitioner’s limited knowledge of the law is no different than the majority of incarcerated  
24 prisoners attempting to file petitions for writ of habeas corpus. Such circumstances are not  
25 extraordinary and do not justify equitable tolling. If limited legal knowledge were an excuse for  
26 not complying with the limitations period, the enactment of the AEDPA would be futile since  
27 most incarcerated prisoners have these same problems.

28 ///

Nor does it appear that Petitioner has acted with diligence. A petitioner who fails to act diligently cannot invoke equitable principles to excuse his lack of diligence. See Baldwin County Welcome Center v. Brown, 466 U.S. 147, 151, 104 S. Ct. 1723 (1984); see also Miles, 187 F.3d at 1107. Here, Petitioner has provided no legitimate excuse for his long delay in filing the instant petition after the factual predicate for his claim was made apparent to him. Thus, the Court cannot find in the present record any basis on which to equitably toll the limitations period.

In light of the foregoing, the Court concludes that the instant petition was filed beyond the one-year limitations period and, therefore, it must be dismissed.<sup>1</sup>

#### E. Request for Appointment of Counsel

In the last sentence of his opposition to the motion to dismiss, Petitioner requests the appointment of counsel. (Doc. 18, p. 4). There currently exists no absolute right to appointment of counsel in habeas proceedings. See e.g., Anderson v. Heinze, 258 F.2d 479, 481 (9th Cir. 1958); Mitchell v. Wyrick, 727 F.2d 773, 774 (8th Cir. 1984). However, Title 18 U.S.C. § 3006A authorizes the appointment of counsel at any stage of the case “if the interests of justice so require.” See Rule 8(c), Rules Governing Section 2254 Cases. In this case, the Court does not find that the interests of justice would be served by the appointment of counsel. Accordingly, the Court will deny Petitioner’s request for appointment of counsel.

### **ORDER**

Accordingly, the Court HEREBY ORDERS as follows:

1. Petitioner’s request for appointment of counsel is DENIED;

---

<sup>1</sup>Petitioner’s reliance on Buckley v. Terhune, 397 F.3d 1149 (9th Cir. 2005), and Brown v. Pool, 337 F.3d 1155 (9th Cir. 2003), as being “on all fours” with the instant case is misplaced. (Doc. 12, pp. 3, 7). Neither case, however, dealt with the particular statute of limitations issues now before this Court. Buckley was overruled by Buckley v. Terhune, 441 F.3d 688 (9th Cir. 2006), in which the Ninth Circuit affirmed the district court’s grant of a habeas petition involving the terms of a plea agreement. However, in so ruling, the Ninth Circuit did not address any statute of limitations issues. Rather, the Ninth Circuit considered the merits of the petitioner’s contentions regarding the nature of his plea agreement. Here, of course, the Court is not addressing the merits of Petitioner’s claim because the Court concludes that the petition is untimely. Thus, Buckley provides no guidance in resolving the statute of limitations issue. Nor is Brown helpful to Petitioner. Although that case did involve a statute of limitations issue, the question in that case was whether the petitioner was entitled to statutory tolling under the AEDPA for a period during which she had asked that her state petition be removed from the state court calendar while she awaited the results of her prison parole hearing. 337 F.3d at 1157. The Ninth Circuit held that Brown was entitled to statutory tolling during that period. Id. However, since that particular issue is not present in this case, Brown is not helpful here.

1 2. Respondent's Motion to Dismiss the petition for violating 28. U.S.C. §2244(d)  
2 (Doc. 14), is GRANTED;

3 3. Petitioner's petition for writ of habeas corpus, is DISMISSED; and

4 4. The Clerk of Court is DIRECTED to ENTER JUDGMENT and close the file.

5 This order terminates the action in its entirety.

6  
7 IT IS SO ORDERED.

8 Dated: February 20, 2008  
9 \_\_\_\_\_

/s/ Theresa A. Goldner  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE